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## PRESS RELEASE

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### IMA-E employees shine in Stalwart Awards

HEIDELBERG, GE – Mr. Michael J. Damico, the Food Program Manager for Headquarters, Installation Management Agency-Europe, was named today the Installation Management Agency Stalwart Award winner for 2004, recognized as the organization's top employee among its seven subordinate headquarters and regional staffs.

Among European region nominees, Ms. Annette Evans of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ASG Directorate of Commercial Activities was honored as the IMA-Europe Stalwart Award winner, having competed for that distinction with two other European region nominees -- Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Kenneth F. Kelly of the 98<sup>th</sup> ASG Headquarters Provost Marshal Office and Mr. William F. Jones, Director of Logistics for the 280th BSB in Schweinfurt.

Since IMA initiated the Stalwart Awards two years ago to recognize outstanding employees, IMA-Europe employees have taken the top award in both competitions. Last year's winner was Ms. Patricia Simoes, the public affairs officer for the 221<sup>st</sup> Base Support Battalion in Wiesbaden at that time.

The Stalwart Award annually honors IMA employees who contributed significantly to the command's accomplishments and high standards of performance since its activation Oct. 1, 2002. Each region nominates one employee from its headquarters and three from their field elements, and the competition covers the period from July to July of each year.

This year's IMA-E nominees are truly indicative of the outstanding employees in the command.

Damico initiated a theater-wide food service professional development program with quarterly video-teleconference training for all food service personnel in Europe. Conducted by subject matter experts, the training reinforces basic and advanced food program operations, provides current food operations doctrine and policy changes, and saves training resources. His price negotiations with commercial vendors have resulted in price lock-ins and procurement of fast-moving bulk items in large quantities at lower prices, as well as dispensing equipment from

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vendors. His tireless efforts in mentoring individual food service personnel and dining facility staffs have directly improved the quality of Soldiers' meals.

As the 22<sup>nd</sup> ASG Family Support Division Chief, Evans has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to Soldiers and families. The 22<sup>nd</sup> ASG's Family Assistance Center (FAC) provided 24-hour operations, seven days a week, with the deployment of the 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade's deployment to OIF, servicing over 33,000 clients. She was on call every night during the deployment, answered many calls from local family members and others in the States and personally worked numerous shifts in the FAC. Evans also initiated a program called "Heartfelt Thanks" to provide official reintegration information to family members and emphasize the community's appreciation of spouse support to Soldiers.

Kelly has trained numerous military units, civilian organizations and school-aged children on all aspects of drug prevention. Providing information to DODDs teachers, Child and Youth Services staff and DOD family members, he lectures each month on a variety of topics from underage drinking to conflict resolution for youth. He has developed the only Military Police Investigators certification course in Europe and has trained MP investigators and CID apprentice agent investigators in a multitude of investigative techniques. He is an active member of a dozen military and civilian law enforcement associations and volunteers after hours to chaperone school functions, keeping his contacts current with professional peers and youth alike.

Jones lead a team that loaded 2,500 pieces of equipment at their community's Installation Staging Area for 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division in just two weeks, working around the clock, seven days a week, with no safety violations or accidents. For the pre-deployment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team and 1-4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Squadron, Jones and his staff distributed more than 4,800 sets of desert BDUs, tracking every Soldier by name to insure each one was properly outfitted with the correct size uniform and boots. With responsibility for the community's Drivers Testing Program, he developed and implemented a written and road driving test that has significantly reduced the number of non-tactical and transportation motor pool vehicle accidents by making drivers more aware of traffic laws and safe driving practices.

Each of the IMA-E nominees received a personal letter from Mr. Hall and will be recognized in various ways in their local communities. Together, these four individuals represent the tremendous talent and dedication of the IMA-E workforce.